AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 22, 2003 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 12, 2003 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 28, 2003

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2003-04 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 618

Introduced by Assembly Member Levine

February 19, 2003

An act to add Section 5025 5077 to the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 618, as amended, Levine. Vehicles: special *interest* license plates: collegiate and professional sports teams.

Existing law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to issue commemorative reflectorized collegiate license plates in lieu of the regular vehicle license plates to persons who apply for the special plates. The special plates contain the name of the participating institution as well as the reflectorized logotype, motto, symbol, or other distinctive design, as approved by the department, representing the participating university or college selected by the applicant. Any public or private postsecondary educational institution in the state that is accredited or has been accepted as a recognized candidate for accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges is authorized to indicate to the department its decision to be included in the commemorative collegiate license plate program and submit its distinctive design for the logotype, motto, symbol, or other design, except that no public or private postsecondary educational institution

AB 618 -2 —

may be included in the program until not less than 5,000 applications are received for license plates containing that institution's logotype, motto, symbol, or other design. In addition to the regular fees for an original registration, a renewal of registration, or a transfer of registration, certain additional fees are imposed for the special plates. The revenue derived from the additional fees is deposited in the California Collegiate License Plate Fund and the Resources License Plate Fund, as specified.

This bill would establish a similar special license plate program for collegiate sports organizations and professional sports teams, subject to certain special interest license plate design requirements in existing law special interest license plates to a person applying for the plates and paying certain fees. The plates contain a distinct design or decal of the participating organization and may be displayed in lieu of regular license plates. Existing law prohibits the department from issuing a special interest license plate until the participating organization has received and submitted to the department not less than 7,500 applications for that particular plate within certain time limitations.

This bill would require the department, in consultation with a collegiate organization or professional sports team, to design and make available for issuance, in accordance with existing law, special interest license plates with a graphic design depicting a logotype, motto, symbol or other distinctive design representing the collegiate organization or professional sports team. The bill would require the certain funds derived under the program, less the department's administrative costs, to be deposited in the Motor Vehicle Account in the State Transportation Fund. The bill would require those funds, upon appropriation, to be made available for expenditure for the purpose of promoting women's participation in high school and collegiate sports.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 5025 is added to the Vehicle Code, to 2 read:
- 3 5025. (a) Any person described in Section 5101 may also apply for a set of commemorative sports team reflectorized license
- 5
- plates, and the department shall issue those special license plates
- in lieu of the regular license plates. The special plates shall be

3 AB 618

available in a special series of letters or numbers, or both, as determined by the department. The special plates shall be of a distinctive design that complies with Section 5060 and includes the name of the participating collegiate sports organization or professional sports team as well as the reflectorized logotype, motto, symbol, or other distinctive design, as approved by the department, representing the collegiate organization or professional team selected by the applicant.

- (b) Any collegiate sports organization or professional sports team may indicate to the department its decision to be included in the commemorative sports team license plate program and submit its distinctive design for the logotype, motto, symbol, or other design. However, no organization may be included in the program until not less than 7,500 applications are received for license plates containing that organization's logotype, motto, symbol, or other design. Each participating organization shall collect and hold applications for the special license plates until it has received at least 7,500 applications. Once the organization has received at least 7,500 applications, it shall submit the applications, along with the necessary fees, to the department. Upon receiving the first application, the organization shall have one calendar year to receive the remaining required applications. If, after that one calendar year, 7,500 applications have not been received, the organization shall refund to all applicants any fees or deposits that have been collected.
- (c) In addition to the regular fees for an original registration, a renewal of registration, or a transfer of registration, or for replacement plates, the following commemorative sports team license plate fees shall be paid:
- SECTION 1. Section 5077 is added to the Vehicle Code, to read:
- 5077. (a) The department, in consultation with a collegiate organization or professional sports team, shall design and make available for issuance pursuant to Section 5060 special interest license plates that depict a logotype, motto, symbol or other distinctive design representing the collegiate organization or professional sports team. A person described in Section 5101, upon payment of the additional fee set forth in subdivision (b), may apply for and be issued a set of the special interest license plates.

AB 618 - 4 —

> (b) In addition to the regular fees for an original registration or renewal of registration, the following additional fees shall be paid for the issuance, renewal, retention, or transfer of the special interest license plates authorized under this section:

- (1) One hundred dollars (\$100) for the initial issuance of the plates. These plates shall be permanent and are not required to be replaced.
- (2) Eighty dollars (\$80) for each renewal of registration that includes the continued display of the plates.
- (3) Fifteen dollars (\$15) for transfer of the plates to another vehicle.
- (4) Thirty-five dollars (\$35) for replacement plates, if the plates become damaged or unserviceable.

(d)

1

5

6

8

10

11

12 13

14

15

19

20

21

23

24

25

26

31

32

- (5) In addition, for the issuance of an environmental license 16 plate, as defined in Section 5103, the additional fees prescribed in Sections 5106 and 5108, which shall be deposited in the California Environmental License Plate Fund.
 - (c) When payment of renewal fees is not required, or when the person determines to retain the commemorative collegiate license plates upon sale, trade, or other release of the vehicle upon which the plates have been displayed, the person shall notify the department and the person may retain the plates.

(e)

(d) All of the revenue derived from the additional special fees provided in this section, less costs incurred by the department pursuant to this section and funds transferred under paragraph (5) of subdivision (b), shall be deposited in the Motor Vehicle Account in the State Transportation Fund. Upon appropriation, those funds shall be made available for expenditure solely for the purpose of promoting women's participation in high school and collegiate sports.